

McBride, who will be celebrating her retirement on Saturday, May 3, 1997. Mrs. McBride is being recognized for her dedication and commitment to the Jonesboro Public School District. Forty years of educating and inspiring the children of Arkansas is a great accomplishment and I commend her for her service.

Mrs. McBride was a graduate of Arkansas State University and has been honored with numerous awards throughout her career. She has received the Arkansas Outstanding Co-operating Teacher Award, the Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America Award, the Outstanding Leaders in Elementary and Secondary Education Award and in 1996 was chosen the Jonesboro Public School District's Outstanding Teacher of the Year. I stand here today on behalf of friends, family, past students, fellow teachers, and Mrs. McBride's community, to say a heartfelt thank you for a job well done.

**A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
CRUZ M. BUSTAMANTE, SPEAK-
ER OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE
ASSEMBLY**

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend and speaker of the California State Assembly, the Honorable Cruz M. Bustamante, of Fresno, CA. On Friday, April 25, 1997, Speaker Bustamante was honored at a reception hosted by the Hispanic Outreach Taskforce of Whittier, CA.

Cruz, first elected to the assembly in 1993, represents the people of the 31st Assembly District. During his tenure in the assembly, Cruz has served as a member of the Committee on Appropriations, Budget, and Higher Education. Also, Cruz has served on the Resources Subcommittee on the Assembly Budget Committee, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, the Select Committee on California-Mexico Affairs, California Wine Production and Economy, and International Trade.

Now serving his third term, Cruz was elected speaker of the California State Assembly on December 2, 1996. This is a historical benchmark in California's rich history. Cruz, as speaker, is the first Latino to hold this office.

Cruz has worked diligently to serve the residents of the 31st Assembly District and, as speaker, the people of California. He recently navigated legislation through the assembly that will hold the tobacco industry accountable to the California State attorney general for State costs for treating tobacco-related illnesses. He is working on legislation to reform California's juvenile justice system and provide grants for the successful juvenile boot camp model. During his career, he has been a champion of farm worker housing and continues an aggressive push for the siting of a University of California campus in Merced County. As a strong advocate for our youth and education, Speaker Bustamante tours the State encouraging children to stay in school and shares his experience that led to his own success through his "You can Too" Program.

The oldest of six children, Cruz was born in Dinuba, CA. His parents, Dominga and Cruz Bustamante, Jr., a retired barber, raised their

family in the rural communities of Tulare and Fresno Counties.

In 1970, he graduated from Tranquility High School and pursued a college degree at Fresno City College and the California State University, Fresno [CSUF], where he studied Public Administration. Following a summer internship in Washington, DC, with Congressman B.F. Sisk, Cruz developed a keen interest in public service. He served on both the student senate and the board of the Fresno State College Association at CSUF.

In 1977, Cruz began his career in public service at the Fresno Employment and Training Commission. He soon became program director for the Summer Youth Employment Training Program, which employed over 3,000 Central valley teenagers each summer. Later, he joined the staff of Congressman Richard Lehman of Fresno, CA. From 1988 until January 1993, Cruz served as district administrative assistant to former Assemblyman Bruce Bronzan.

A strong believer in community service, Cruz has served on numerous local boards and commissions, including Fresno United Way Allocation Committee, Burroughs Elementary School Site Committee, City of Fresno Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Roosevelt Plan Implementation Committee.

He is married to the former Arcelia De La Pena. They have three daughters, Leticia, Sonia, and Marisa, a grandson, David, and a granddaughter, Lauren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me and the Hispanic Outreach Taskforce in recognizing the Honorable Cruz M. Bustamante for his outstanding and invaluable service to people of the State of California.

**TREATING LEGAL IMMIGRANTS
FAIRLY**

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in less than 100 days many thousands of elderly and disabled legal immigrants in our country will lose their only source of financial support unless Congress acts.

This is not about welfare reform; it is about community responsibility. It is not about moving young parents from welfare to work, but about elderly people who cannot work. It is not about people who came here illegally, but people who came here under our laws.

They now find themselves disabled, most often by age and illness: Asian-Americans caught up in the Vietnam war, often fighting on our side; Arab-Americans many of whom fled the land of Saddam Hussein; People who, despite in numerous cases having defended their native land against the Nazi invaders, left because of Soviet persecution against Jewish families; and Hispanic-Americans dislocated by war or in pursuit of family reunification.

When President Clinton signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act he made it completely clear that he would propose legislation this year to correct the provisions on legal immigrants; today I am introducing a bill similar to the President's proposal.

As a nation of immigrants, we must face up to this issue, as the faces of these elderly legal immigrants come more and more into focus for all the Nation to see.

**THE WESTHILL HIGH SCHOOL
BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM WINS
THE NEW YORK STATE CLASS B
PUBLIC SCHOOL TITLE**

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Westhill High School boys basketball team for winning the New York State Class B Championship game on March 16, 1997.

Until this season, the Warriors had played basketball in the class C division. This year, hard work and the help of coach Todd Widrick made it possible for the team to go undefeated in its first season of competition in the class B division. Senior David Lemm scored 30 of the team's final 64 points and was honored as the tournament's most valuable player. Juniors Scott Ungerer and Chuck Cassidy were also honored by being named to the all-tournament team.

Our central New York community is proud of the teamwork and dedication displayed by these and all the young athletes who competed in the tournament. I congratulate all of the members of the Westhill Varsity basketball team for their victory. Team members include: Bryan Sidoni, Mike Nicholson, Scott Adydan, Brian Gehm, Marc Herron, Mike Wojenski, Jordan Weismore, Brennan Binsack, Ryan Vossetig, David Lemm, Scott Ungerer, Chuck Cassidy, and coaches Tim Allen, Carlton Green, and Todd Widrick.

Congratulations to all on their impressive accomplishment.

**ENFORCEMENT OF U.S. IMMIGRA-
TION AND NATIONALITY LAWS
IN PUERTO RICO**

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, ever since I was stationed in Puerto Rico during my service in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955, I have harbored warm sentiments about the people I met, the beauty of the place, and the society of the island, as well as about its special bond with the mainland United States.

I arrived there shortly after the U.S. Congress and the Puerto Rican people had authorized the local constitution under which the island has existed up to the present. I was never certain that the status under the new constitution was well-defined, or how the people regarded themselves as a result.

For example, the Puerto Rican soldiers with whom I served expressed loyalty to the United States, and never felt that having U.S. nationality and citizenship meant that they had lost their status as citizens of Puerto Rico. In the same way that soldiers from Texas or Maine still saw themselves as citizens of their States,